



**Education Scholarship Accounts  
Frequently Asked Questions**

The purpose of this frequently asked questions (FAQ) document is to share key information with families and providers who are interested in participating in the Education Scholarship Accounts (ESA) program for the 2026-2027 school year. The Indiana ESA program is a statewide school choice program for students with disabilities and their siblings. Students with a disability may receive up to \$20,000 annually and their siblings may receive up to \$8,000 annually. This is the first year that the ESA program is administered by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE).

Number	Question	Answer
1	<b>What is the Indiana Education Scholarship Account (ESA) Program?</b>	The Indiana Education Scholarship Account Program provides students with disabilities throughout the state of Indiana access to the educational environment that best meets their learning needs. Parents of eligible students, or emancipated eligible students, will have the opportunity to spend dedicated scholarship money on approved educational programs, therapies, services, tuition and fees, and other expenses related to the student's education.
2	<b>When does the application open for the 2026-2027 school year?</b>	The application will open on March 1, 2026, consistent with previous years. The application will remain open through September 1, 2026.
3	<b>What is the priority access window?</b>	All applications will open on March 1, 2026. The priority access window will run through April 15, 2026, and is specifically designed for students with disabilities who received funding through the ESA program in the previous school year, followed by students with disabilities and their siblings, on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications for all eligible students will remain open through September 1, 2026.
4	<b>Will applications and payments be processed using the same systems for the 2026-2027 school year?</b>	Yes. Applications will remain on Access Indiana, and payments will continue through ClassWallet.
5	<b>Will I be able to use my current provider in the 2026-2027 school year?</b>	Yes. Approved providers will remain active unless notified otherwise.
6	<b>How will IDOE determine provider eligibility?</b>	Providers must meet the standards outlined in the <a href="#">ESA handbook</a> , including licensure and program agreements. These standards will remain the same for the 2026-2027 school year.
7	<b>What is the renewal process for current providers?</b>	Current providers remain approved under existing agreements. Renewal timelines vary by provider, but will continue to follow the same schedule.



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**Mike Braun, Governor  
Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education**

8	<b>How can a potential new provider apply?</b>	Providers will continue to apply through Access Indiana. Approvals will be communicated by IDOE via the contact email address included on the provider's application.
9	<b>When do I need a new ESA Service Plan?</b>	As always, you should update your ESA Service Plan when services change or at renewal.
10	<b>What expenses will be eligible for reimbursement during the 2026-2027 school year?</b>	A list of approved categories for reimbursement are available in the <a href="#">ESA Handbook</a> . These approved categories will remain the same for the 2026-2027 school year. For eligible expenses in future years, IDOE will proactively engage families and other stakeholders to continuously improve the ESA program.
11	<b>When will funding be distributed for the 2026-2027 school year?</b>	Funding will be distributed following the same quarterly schedule: August, October, December, and February.
12	<b>When will any outstanding invoices be paid?</b>	The Indiana Treasurer of State's Office has advised IDOE that the final date to submit invoices for the 2025-2026 school year has changed. All invoices must be submitted by May 22, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.. For questions regarding invoices for the 2025-2026 school year, please contact the Treasurer of State's Office at <a href="mailto:esa@tos.in.gov">esa@tos.in.gov</a> .
13	<b>Will any unused funds at the end of the 2026-2027 school year roll over to the next school year?</b>	Up to \$1,000 from the 2026-2027 school may roll over beginning July 2027, in addition to any unused funds that were rolled over from the 2025-2026 school year.
14	<b>How will IDOE share general information with families?</b>	For the most up-to-date information, visit <a href="http://www.in.gov/doi/eqq/esa">www.in.gov/doi/eqq/esa</a> .
15	<b>How will families communicate with IDOE if they have a question?</b>	Specific questions can be shared with IDOE via email at <a href="mailto:ESA@doe.in.gov">ESA@doe.in.gov</a> , as well as via phone at 317-232-0723.
16	<b>How can families and other stakeholders share feedback to strengthen the ESA program and its impact for students?</b>	Feedback can be shared directly with IDOE at <a href="mailto:ESA@doe.in.gov">ESA@doe.in.gov</a> . IDOE will also proactively engage families and other stakeholders to continuously improve the ESA program.

**For additional information, please email [ESA@doe.in.gov](mailto:ESA@doe.in.gov).**